

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange on Thursday 1st March 2018 starting at 7:00pm.

432. Those present: Paul Walters, (Chairman) Margaret Williams, Peter Foster, Jean Peacock., Nic Prior, Mark Middlemiss, Wilma Campbell and Richard Lawley.,Janine Forster.

Also attending: Cllr Joe Kelley, Cllr Lorraine Tostevin, Peter Allan (Parish Clerk), plus 4 members of the public.

433. Apologies for absence

Graham Wylie **Dorothy Oughton, Elaine Hedley**

434. Chairman's Address

The Chairman welcomes the Councillors and all the members of the public.

The Chairman addressed the comments and concerns raised through the Guest Book regarding the Section 106 requests which the Council had forwarded to the DBC Planning Department. These included funding for a second playground.

The Council had previously submitted a schedule of requests to the Banks Group for inclusion in their application for the second batch of houses on Roundhill Road. However at the last PC Meeting, members of the public requested that the Council could make a more detailed schedule and submit it direct to DBC, the Council undertook this request, and submitted the second Section 106 list, for consideration.

At this stage the council has not discussed any plans for the second playground, nor its location.

435. Declarations of Interests

Jean Peacock – HCA

Wilma Campbell – HCA and EPICH

436.Minutes of the PC Meeting held on 1st February 2018.

The Minutes were accepted by the Council, Proposed by Margaret Williams and Seconded by Jean Peacock.

437 Matters Arising

1. HPC Web site

2. Mark Middlemiss reported that he had now completed the development of the new web site, and has had it on test for four weeks. Most of the Councillors had seen the site and were very complimentary about both its appearance and the content.

3. Mark assured the meeting that all of the data held on the existing web site has been transferred to the new site and is archived.

4. It was agreed that Mark will be the web site administrator, and that he and Paul Walters will hold the password and have access to the site.

5. The meeting disclosed that they have no concerns about an immediate changeover, and a motion was tabled by Paul Walters, Seconded by Peter Foster that the switch to the new

site should take place as from this meeting. The motion was carried unanimously. Mark agreed to change the web pointers and provide immediate access to the new site.

6. The meeting expressed their thanks to John Hedley, who has managed the Council's web site for the last two years. **Action Letter of thanks to John Hedley.**

438 Public Participation

There were no matters raised.

439. Neighbourhood Plan

Richard Lawley gave the following report:-

A Meeting has been arranged for Thursday, 8th March a 6:30pm in the Bagshaw Gallery, when it is hoped that all the members of the team will attend.

There are basically three sections within the Plan:-

- l1 The main Housing Planning section
- l2 The Supports to the Planning Section
- l3 Parish Matters, which may be outside the actual Neighbourhood Plan.

It is important that the council appoints a consultant who can address the Housing Needs Assessment. Mark Middlemiss has identified a possible candidate, who has said he can handle this part of the project. Mark will make arrangements for the team to meet him.

The questionnaires have now been analysed by a team of volunteers, and the results summarised by Hugh Jackson. The next step in the interpretation of the data collected.

Judith Aston has resigned as Chair of the N Plan Team and the committee. Her husband has also resigned from the committee.

A new executive structure has been established, which is

Nigel Goddard – Chairman

Hugh Jackson – Vice Chairman

Richard Lawley – Council Representative

Peter Allan – Secretary

Richard informed the meeting that it is hoped that the Plan can be completed by October this year, although there is still a lot of work to be done. The next Milestone is the public meeting, when a presentation will be made at the Annual Assembly in May.

Richard agreed to collect the data stick and associated files from Judith Aston.

Margaret Williams tabled a motion that the Neighbourhood Plan Committee should revert to a Working Party, which would make it easier for the several teams working on the project who will not be restricted by advertising every meeting and recording formal Minutes. Richard is the Council's representative, and he will make monthly progress reports to the Council. He will also oversee the actions and progress of the working party teams.

The motion was Seconded by Mark Middlemiss, and the vote was unanimous. It is over six months since the previous motion was tabled, so this motion is within the Council's procedures.

440. Planning Applications

Jean Peacock reported as follows:-

Planning Report – 1st MARCH 2018

17/00921/FUL 57 WESTFIELD DRIVE

Replace flat roof with sloping roof.

18/00122/TFC 25 THE GREEN

Felling of tree

18/00106/TF 44 MANOR ROAD

Works to Ash Tree (T1) crown reduction
and thinning.

18/00004/DUM SPRINGFIELD FARM, CROFT ROAD

Constraints check

441. Tree Report

Peter Foster reported that it was now time for the Tree Surveys for the Village and Hurworth Grange to be carried out, in accordance with our procedures and insurance requirements. The meeting agreed that this should be arranged as soon as the weather permits.

He had been asked to inspect the trees at the back of the doctor's surgery, and reported that they require cutting back. However they are privately owned and have recently been fenced off by the St John of God organisation. No Council action is required.

During this visit the doctor's surgery reported an increase in the amount of dog dirt on the pavements leading to the surgery; this is a concern as it could be trodden into the doctor's premises. It is thought that this has occurred because the St John of God field is no longer open.

The tree which is to be reduced opposite the Bay Horse Inn will be treated soon. There have been two abortive attempts, which were thwarted by vehicles restricting the area.

442 Police Report

Mark Middlemiss reported as follows:-

Crime figures Hurworth February.

Burglary 1

17/02 – The Grange – theft of a purse – investigation ongoing

Criminal damage 1

16/02 – Fox close – after altercation a pedestrian damaged caller's vehicle – investigation ongoing

ASB 3

02/02 – Church yard – group of youths with torches on the church yard (youth club activity)

09/02 – Comprehensive school – Large Group of youths reported being loud and drinking on the school grounds – police attended, youths ran in all directions. No damage to the school, only one Lamborghini bottle smashed.

23/02 – Church Row – group of youths being loud (youth club on in the area) – Police attended spoke to youths asking them to be quiet.

Theft 0

Road related 3

19/02 – Croft road – HGV stuck blocking the road. – Vehicle recovered later on

27/02 – Hurworth Rd – vehicle slipped on the ice hitting a pedestrian – pedestrian has been taken to A&E, U/K about pedestrians' condition.

28/02 – Croft bank – multiple vehicles stuck due to snowy weather.

Animal/wildlife 1

22/02 – Linden Drive – loose sheep – sheep put back on the fenced field near by

26/02 Same as above, same outcome

Other suspicious 5(7)

08/02 – Woodlands Way – Caller stated that she has seen her door handle being moved up and down in the middle of the night – police attended, all in order.

08/02 – Primary school – Caller heard loud voices next to the fence of the primary school, sounded like few males. Caller worried about the children. – Police attended no males found.

11/02 – West End – Male knocking on peoples doors trying to sell stuff. – Male spoken to by the police in regards to his assertive selling techniques.

11/02 - Teesway –same incident as above

16/02 – Manor Rd – Caller reporting multiple vehicles/residents around the area have been seen speeding. Male refused to give his details. – Unable to speak to caller further about this issue.

16/02 – Emerson Rd – caller reporting males going door to door selling items – Police spoke to males giving words of advice.

16/02 – Belgrade Terrace – same as above

443. Open Spaces and EPICH Report

Wilma Campbell reported as follows:-

OPEN SPACES

Nothing to report.

EPICH

Due to lack of interest it is likely that the apple tree grafting course to be held on Saturday 24th March will not go ahead. A decision will be made on Monday 5th March. Ongoing poor weather has delayed the planting of the stepover apple trees at the Grange .

Due to the decline in some animal species, EPICH are creating wildlife sanctuaries in various parts of Hurworth starting with the Orchard in Lychgate. Snowdrops and bluebell bulbs have been planted and a nesting box for Little Owls has been erected. We are hoping to encourage them to nest there as well as reintroducing hedgehogs back to the area.

Unfortunately there is a bit of litter on the site and a couple of people are dumping garden waste there which is a shame.

A community tidy up is scheduled weather permitting on Sunday 4th March.

We are still waiting to get quote for planters to go underneath the Council notice boards.

EPICH were not successful in getting a grant to help cover the cost of a Murder Mystery event to be held at the Grange in August therefore this event will not go ahead.

In discussion, Wilma stressed that emphasis is being focused on promoting the hedgehog highways, and encouraging residents to foster hedgehogs with an intent to reintroduce them into their natural habitat.

444. Newsletter

In the absence of Elaine Hedley, she requested that all the articles and input for the Parish Chronicle should be sent directly to her, and she will arrange the compiling of the newsletter.

The final draft is due to be sent to the printers by 12th March.

The Councillors committed to abide with this request.

Paul Walters tabled a motion to include articles about businesses in the Parish Chronicle. After a debate, the motion further defined that the articles should be restricted to new businesses and start up business within Hurworth Parish.

The motion was Seconded by Mark Middlemiss, and a vote taken. The motion was carried by six votes in favour, one against and two abstentions.

445. Parish Walks

Janine Foster reported as follows:-

Walk report – for Sunday 25th February (Hurworth Circle)

Paths 1, 8, 12, 13, 11 & BW10 were walked on a circular route starting and finishing at Hurworth Village Green.

Attended by 12 people including 3 Parish Councillors and 1 Ward Councillor

Janine Forster, Mark Middlemiss, Paul Walters, Lorraine Tostevin.

The path along Coach Lane, through the primary school and along the Glebe to Dens hill field is an easy clear walk, if quite muddy at this time of year. The stile at the foot of the hill slopes slightly and could do with some attention.

Path 11 along the railway line is clear and leads well over Rockcliffe. The 1st of the 3 stiles leading on to BW10 is in need of repair as part of the rail has come loose.

Walk Length - 3.34 miles. Walk Time at easy pace – 1 ½ hrs

446. Highways Report

Margaret Williams reported as follows:-

There is not much to report this month but the following may be of interest:-

Much discussion has taken place between Middi and the management of the Spar shop and their delivery company in the last few weeks. We (especially Middi) are trying to arrange a meeting with the company who deliver to the shop regarding the possibility of organising a change in the delivery times so that it falls outside the times when the children are going to the Primary School in the morning. Unfortunately, the adverse weather so far this week means that this arrangement was cancelled and will now take place in the very near future.

Suggestions have been put forward to the DBC on possible ways in which the daily congestion at the Spar shop corner might be alleviated and feedback is awaited.

Speed watch volunteers have been active this month on the main road through the village, especially near the junction by the Chase. Potholes in this area have also been filled up

I have some traffic monitor data details from January which may be of interest and are as follows:-

Steel bridge -incoming- 17%drivers exceeded speed limit of 30 mph - average speeder travels at 33mph and fastest speed recorded was 65mph on 2/1/2018@ 16.30

Linden Court 27% drivers exceeded speed limit of 30 mph- average speeder travels at 33mph and fastest speed recorded was 65 mph on 6/1/2018@ 16.30

Opposite Academy -incoming-41%drivers exceeded speed limit of 30 mph - average speeder travels at 33mph and fastest speed recorded was 75 mph on 14/1/2018@12.00

Again the monitor opposite the Academy causes us the greatest concern, as can be seen by the above figures and we are hoping the promised traffic calming measures on Hurworth Road will be implemented in the area near the school when the construction of the new housing estate on Roundhill Road is nearer completion.

Traffic Statistics Report

February 2018 speed monitor readings

Steel Bridge incoming - 25%drivers exceeded speed limit of 30mph - average speeder speed 33.2mph -fastest speed recorded 60mph @ 12.15 on 12/2/2018

Linden Court - 32%drivers exceeded speed limit of 30mph- average speeder speed 33.4mph - fastest speed recorded 60mph@13.45 on 71/2/2018

Hurworth Road near Academy outgoing-47.5% drivers exceeded speed limit of 30 mph- average speeder speed 33.9mph - fastest speed recorded 75 mph @ 19.00 on12/2/2018

Again -the monitor on Hurworth Road near the Academy shows the most % of drivers who exceed the 30 mph limit.

Spar shop corner

Mark Middlemiss has direct contact with the delivery service company that delivers to the Spar shop. An on-site meeting for 8:30am had to be postponed as the M6 was closed and the attendees could not get to Hurworth in the bad weather.

However, progress is being made.

Additionally, Mark has made a survey of the traffic flow at the Spar shop corner, and out before the meeting a possible solution, which incorporates a yellow X box for traffic coming from the Neasham direction. The meeting perused Mark's schematics, and it was agreed that this should be submitted to Andrew Casey at DBC. **Action Clerk.**

Peter Foster expressed concerns about the state of the overgrown hedge near Skipbridge, and two abandoned vehicles behind the hedge. **Action MW and the Clerk to make enquiries.**

447. Allotment Reports

In the absence of Dorothy Oughton, the following report was read out to the meeting:-

All the allotments have now been taken, and all of the rents have been received.

New numbers have been put up on the Strait Lane sites.

The summerhouse, which was in dispute, has been taken away from the site.

Chippings have been delivered to enhance the pathways.

Action: **Clerk, more salt required at Croft bank.**

448. HPC Guest Book

Paul Walters reported that there has been some activity, mostly relating to the following topics:-

1. The possibility of a second playground, and the inference that it could be sited on the Manorfield.
2. Community Notice Board punctuality. - Janine Forster stated that this was now in hand.
3. Comments relating to the Council not submitting a formal objection to the new Banks Group planning application. Comments were both supportive and against.

449. Matters of Interest

1. Events on the green areas

a. Mark Middlemiss set out his suggestion to hold an outdoor cinema session in August on the Village Green. The costs for the cinema equipment and services total £1350, and portaloos will cost a further £350.

The Council were enthusiastic about the event, and Mark will do further work on this.

b. Mark is suggesting that Hurworth hold a Scarecrow Festival on the Village Green, with the Scouts and other community organisations taking an active role. This could be followed in the evening by an outdoor concert on the Manorfield.

The Council endorsed Mark's ideas, and he will now do further preparatory work to see whether this project is practical, and can be staged.

2. **Keep Britain Tidy Campaign**

StreetScene has informed HPC that a litter audit has been carried out in Hurworth, as part of their performance practice. Hurworth has received a bad report, and are rated as one of the worst parishes in the Darlington Borough.

We have requested details of the 75 areas which were audited, so we can address this problem.

Most of the Councillors showed surprise and felt that the villages are in clean condition. However the main road leading into Hurworth have been seen to have litter as has Burma Road area.

Cllr Tostevein has undertaken to get the details of the audit, so that we can move forward.

A Village Litter Pick is being organised by Dorothy ought for **Saturday, 7th April**, to become part of the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign.

Action: Get a schedule of where all the dog bins are located.

450. Accounts for Payment

The schedule of accounts for payment in February 2018, having been circulated to all councillors was accepted by the council.

Accounts for Payment as at 28th February 2018

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque</u>		<u>Amount</u>
	<u>No</u>	<u>Details</u>	
Durham Community Action Hurworth and Croft Association	102996	N Plan data processing	500.00
DBC	102997	Replaces chq to Hurworth Juniors F C.	1000.00
HCA	102998	Recorded in January	0.00
HCA	102999	Building extension Project	15000.00
DBC	103000	Newsletter £60, photocopying £15	75.00
P D Allan	102301	2 Salt bins	411.55
M Harrison	102302	Allotment exs, and admin.	117.90
Bob Iles	102303	Allotments £20, Handyman £20	40.00
P D Allan	102304	Salary	358.10
Inland Revenue	102305	Salary	312.44
Barclays Bank	102306	PAYE	366.84
Talk Talk	DD	Bank charges	2.30
	DD	Final calls account	15.58

Total Expenditure for February 2018

18199.71

The payment of £15,000 to HCA is for the council's contribution to the Fletcher Hall extension,. This project was supported by the council and in the 2017=18 budget under 'Projects'. This project has now started.

451 Financial Report

The Financial Report as at 28th February 2018 having been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting was accepted by the council.

Please see the addendum for the detailed report.

452. Association Reports

Nothing to report.

453. Any Other Business (Non Financial)

1. Cllr Tostevin encouraged Councillors and the Clerk to attend the next meeting of the Darlington Association of Local Councils, as the main topic will be a presentation and discussion on the new Data Protection Act. This will be held at the Darlington Fire Station.
2. 2. Richard Lawley reported that he had attended the CPRE Meeting and that there are changes in the Planning process, due to the requirements of the Land Assessment, which require a 5 year land supply, by DBC.
3. These changes are meant to make the planning process easier and quicker.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9:20pm

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